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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO. 25X1

COUNTRY East Germany

DATE DISTR. 6 February 1953

SUBJECT Ifa Vehicle Plant in Triptis

NO. OF PAGES 3

25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED

25X1

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW) 2 (1 sketch, 1 legend)

DATE OF INFO.

SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. At that time installations of the plant included Plant I on Bahnhofstrasse and Plant II on Leubsdorfer Strasse. Plant I was about 200 meters from the Triptis railroad station opposite the porcelain plant VVB Keramik. It was housed in the buildings of the former Globus Carpet Factory which, in 1946, was expropriated and, in October 1950, shifted to the premises of the Rheinmetall-Borsig Plant in Muenchen-Bernsdorf (N 51/J 95). That part of Rheinmetall-Borsig which remained was transferred, as part of the IFA Vehicle Plant, into the buildings of the Globus Carpet Factory in Triptis. Plant II was located on the edge of Triptis on the left side of Leubsdorfer Strasse in the direction of Leubsdorf (N 51/K 85). Plant I covered an area of about 500,000 square meters. It consisted of four large and two small buildings. Plant II, covering an area of about 200 square meters, consisted of one building which housed the administration, the plant school, and the apprentices' workshops. Plant II was used exclusively for training of apprentices. 1

2. In early February 1952 the plants totalled 800 employees including 200 women. Plant I employed 550 workers; Plant II 250 workers. Work was done according to TAN (tariff work norms). Beginning November 1951 the workers were bound by a collective contract.

3. Monthly power consumption amounted to about 30,000 kw. The required power was supplied by the Auma (N 51/J 94) power plant.

4. In 1950 Plant I received a special new milling machine with milling sets from the Kopp Plant in Ulm through illegal imports from the West. Plant II was equipped with 15 new, small lathes manufactured in East Germany. 2

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5. The following is a list of raw materials and semifinished products supplied to Plant I.

Designation of Material	Quantity of Annual Supplies in Tons	Supplying Plant
Steel castings	1,200	SAG Frankleben (T 52/L 90) near Merseburg, Goessnitz (T 51/J 73 ?) Ironworks Dechemuende (T 51/L 10) Steelworks.
Malleable cast iron TGS-32	1.0	Leipzig Iron and Steelworks (T 52/L 21).
Grey castings	about 100	" "
Screws and nuts quality 5-8	3.0	Through illegal western imports; in 1951 through the German Trade Center for Machine and Vehicle Construction in Zwickau (T 51/K 31) from the Zapfel Corporation in Moerchorg.
Bright steel screws and nuts, quality 5-8 or 4-6	1.0	VVB Tewa Plant in Mora (T 51/K 66), VVB Tewa Plant in Chemnitz (T 51/K 66) VVB Tewa Plant in Olsterwerda (T 52/K 63).
Screw accessories	about 1	Through illegal western imports. Plant not identified.
Precision steel pipes, thickness of pipe wall ranging from 1 to 2 mm	undetermined	Through illegal western imports. In June 1951 for the last time, from Cologne via the MAI for Machine and Vehicle Construction, Magdeburg (T 53/Y 60).
Precision steel pipes up to 2.5 mm wall thickness	undetermined	VVB Faradit Plant (VVB Veste) in Chemnitz.
Square steel, VKS 125 to 135 ranging from 120 to 140	5 to 7	Maximilianhuette in Unterwellenborn (T 51/J 63), and Hennigsdorf (T 53/Y 76) Steelworks.
VKS steel iron forgings	about 3	Maximilianhuette in Unterwellenborn.
Rod steel, VKS 37-12 or 34-12	about 120	Thale (T 53/Y 63) Steelworks through the Drawing Plant in Trotterode (T 51/L 95) Used as auxiliary material for thick-walled precision steel pipes.
Rod material 36-12	about 1.0	Maximilianhuette in Unterwellenborn.

6. In early February 1952, Plant I produced complete steering sets for 1.5-ton, 2-ton, 3-ton and 4-ton trucks, 2.5-liter sedans, 30-hp and 40-hp tractors, and 60-hp and 120-hp caterpillar tractors. Plant I also manufactured rear axle shafts, flared rear axle tubes, oil pump casings and steering boxes for 40-hp tractors, and steering components. The following plants were supplied:

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Name of Plant	Shipment
IFA Phaenomen Plant in Zittau (O 51/J 97)	3,530 steering sets for 1.5-ton and 2-ton trucks including 700 sets for export and 100 sets for government orders (drawing No 2050).
IFA Horch Plant in Zwickau (O 51/I 34)	5,000 steering sets for 3-ton W3/ trucks, including about 2,000 sets for export (drawing No 2079).
IFA Plant in Nordau (O 52/J 64)	1,200 steering sets for 6-ton trucks (W6 type) (drawing No 2107).
IFA Plant in Nordhausen (O 52/D 12)	5,500 steering worms and 5,500 steering segments for 30-hp tractors; 11,000 rear axles, 11,000 flared rear axle tubes, 5,500 oil pump casings, and 5,500 steering boxes.
IFA Plant in Brandenburg (O 53/J 23) and the DHZ (Deutsche Handelszentrale) (German Trade Center)	3,300 steering sets for 30-hp tractors (drawing No 2109).
IFA Plant in Gotha (O 51/J 04)	600 steering sets for 60-hp tractors, 600 steering sets for 120-hp tractors. 3

7. Plant I was surrounded by a plain wooden fence. Six plant policemen did guard duty. The fire brigade consisted of twenty men. Control at the entrance gates
25X1 was limited to conventional checking of identification papers.

1. [redacted] Comment. Attached is a sketch of Plant I of the IFA Vehicle Plant in Triptis.

25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] At best, only 60 percent of the machine capacity of Plant I was utilized. Irregular operation, poor maintenance, and careless servicing were, allegedly, responsible for such limited utilization. About 30 percent of the quota was fulfilled in early February 1952. If all investments were realized, fulfillment, allegedly, could be increased to a
25X1 maximum of 90 percent. [redacted] the plant could be converted to the production of shells, projectiles, or gun carriages within six weeks.

[redacted] Comment.

3. The indicated shipments probably refer to the 1951 production of the plant.

25X1 4. [redacted] Comment. Listed in available reference material as Schlepperwerk Triptis (VVB Ifa) (formerly Bruno Mueller), 23 Leubsdorferstrasse, Triptis.

5. [redacted] Comment. Porzellanfabrik Triptis (VVB Keramik) is located at 15 Bahnhofstrasse, Triptis.

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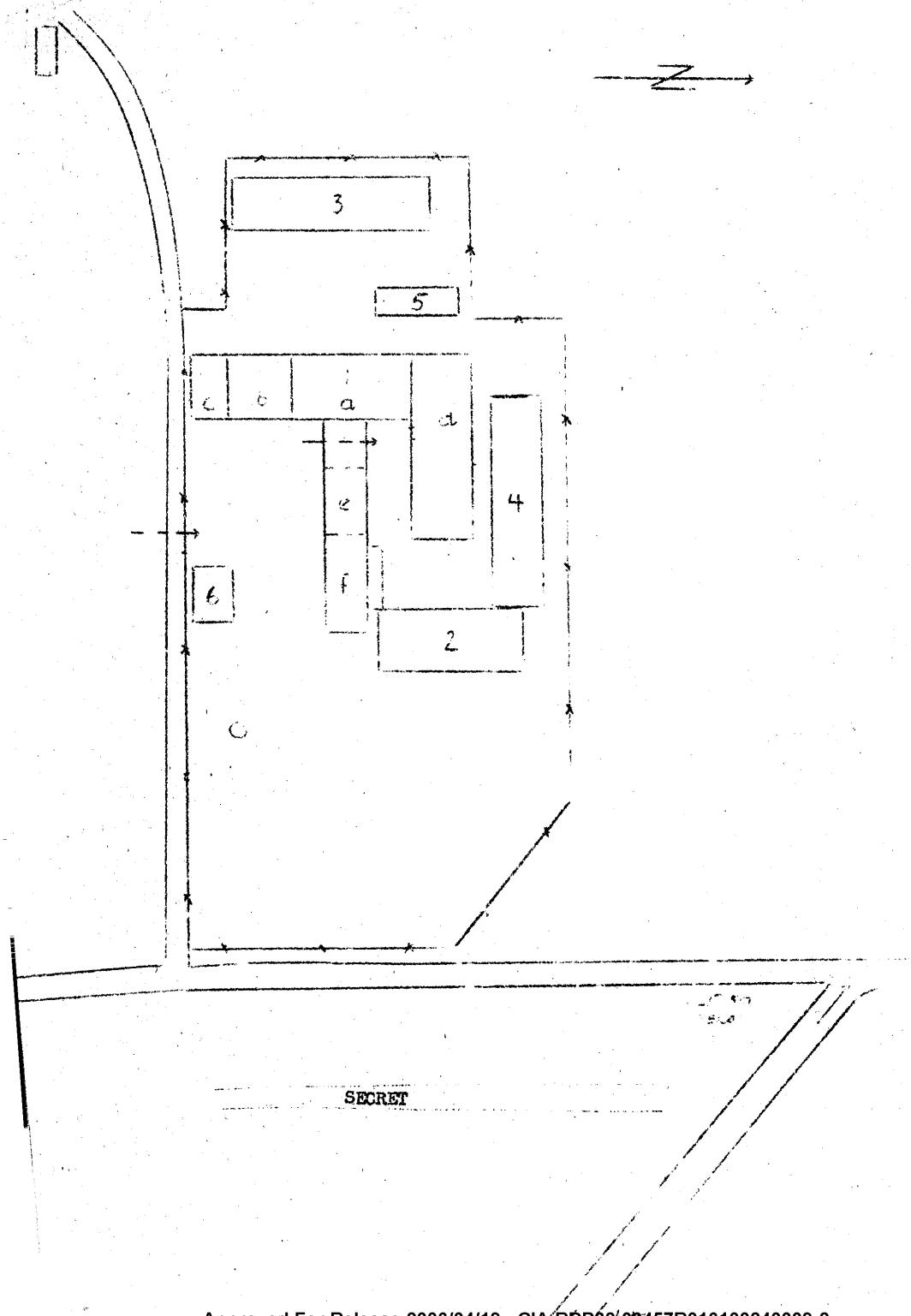
Annex

Layout Sketch of Plant I of the IFA Vehicle Plant in Triptis

Legend: see next page



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Annex

Legend

1. Main building
   a. Workshop I
   b. Administration
   c. Doctor's room
   d. Boilerhouse
   e. Carpentry
   f. Hardening shop
2. Workshop II
3. Workshop III with [illegible] steel rods
4. Assembly shop
5. Coal shed
6. Guard station

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